

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Withdrawn): A method for forcibly inserting a drop of a molding material into a concave of a molding female die in a compression molding machine, wherein a molten synthetic resin extruded from an extrusion opening formed at the edge of an extrusion die head is formed into a determined quantity of the drop by holding and then cutting or cutting and then holding by a holding mechanism and a cutter placed at a synthetic resin accepting position which opposes to the extrusion die head, the drop is held and conveyed by the holding mechanism, and the drop held at a discharging position on a molding female die is forcibly inserted and fed into the concave of a molding female die while the holding is released.

2. (Currently Amended): A method of supplying a drop to a compression molding machine comprising:

moving a molding die along a first path;  
moving a holding mechanism along a second path,  
making a following zone ~~extending in a plain view~~ where a portion of either the first path  
[[and]] or the second path elastically conforms to other of the first path or the second path such that  
the first path and the second path substantially overlap in a plain view over a distance;  
synchronizing the movement of the molding die and the movement of the holding  
mechanism in the following zone;  
carrying the drop by the holding mechanism to the following zone; and  
transferring the drop from the holding mechanism to the molding die in the following zone.

wherein the first path and the second path are endless paths,  
wherein the first path of the moving molding die is a circular path, and  
the holding mechanism to supply the drop into the molding die in a follow-up manner moves  
along a second path.

3. (Withdrawn): A device for forcibly inserting a drop of a molding material into a concave of a molding female die in a compression molding machine, which comprises following means: an extruding means for extruding a synthetic resin molding material which forms it into soften and molten condition by heating plasticization, an extrusion opening formed at the edge of an extrusion die head attached to the extruding means, a holding mechanism formed at a synthetic resin accepting position opposing to the extrusion die head, for holding the molten synthetic resin extruded from the extrusion opening, a cutter for cutting the synthetic resin into a determined quantity of the drop, and a supplying means for conveying the drop into a discharging position provided on the molding female die and the held drop is forcibly inserted into the concave of the molding female die with releasing the holding.

4. (Withdrawn): A device for continuously supplying a drop of a molding material into a moving molding die in a compression molding machine which is a device for supplying a drop in molding die follow-up manner, wherein a holding mechanism on a rotary-and movable type drop supply is made to approach the rotating molding die and the rotation path of the holding mechanism is made to overlap or nearly overlap with that of the molding die within a determined area and the movement of the holding mechanism is made to follow that of the molding die, or the movement of the molding die is made to follow that of the holding mechanism, and the holding of the drop held

and conveyed by the holding mechanism is released on the overlapped or nearly overlapped paths of rotation, to insert and supply the drop into the concave of the molding female die.

5. (Previously Presented): The method of supplying a drop according to claim 2, wherein, in the transferring step, the drop released from the holding mechanism is forcibly inserted into the concave of the molding die.

6. (Previously Presented): The method of supplying a drop according to claim 2, wherein a plurality of holding mechanisms is used, the first path is a rotary path, and the compression molding has a plurality of the molding dies.

7. (Withdrawn): The method or device for forcibly inserting a drop into a concave of a female mold according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the method for forcibly inserting the drop into the concave of the female mold is a forcible method for dropping in which the holding mechanism to hold the drop is lowered at accelerating speed or at a constant speed by inertia.

8. (Withdrawn) The method or device for forcibly inserting a drop into a concave of a female mold according to claim 7, wherein a lift block is provided for lowering the holding mechanism to hold the drop at accelerating speed or at a constant speed by inertia.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended): The method of supplying a drop in molding die follow-up manner according to claim 2, wherein the second path is a circular path, and ~~the holding mechanism is tilted to a normal line of the circular path~~ is tilted so that the second path substantially overlaps the first path within the following zone.

11. (Currently Amended): The method of supplying a drop in molding die follow-up manner according to claim 10, wherein the holding mechanism moves along a guide by a cam provided outside and a cam follower integrated with the holding mechanism, ~~the rotation path of the holding mechanism is made to substantially overlap the first path of the molding die within the following zone.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method of supplying a drop in molding die follow-up manner according to claim 11, wherein the holding mechanism ~~further~~ follows the position of the molding die by oscillation when the holding mechanism is made to approach the rotating molding die.

13. (Currently Amended): The method of supplying a drop according to claim 11, wherein the holding mechanism is supported by a support, the support is biased outward with respect to a wheel on which the holding mechanism is attached, the cam follower abutting on the cam is set so that the holding mechanism does not move outward from the position, the support moves along the guide whose angle is varied to set at a specific angle toward the normal line so that, while the support moves along the guide, the holding mechanism abuts the die as appropriate and approaches the molding die ~~to make the second path of the holding mechanism substantially overlap the first path of the molding die within following zone.~~

14. (Currently Amended): The method of supplying a drop ~~in molding die follow-up manner~~ according to claim 2, wherein the holding mechanism is supported by a fixing member moved on the second path around the eccentric circle, a moving path of the fixing member is controlled by a controlling guide provided on the path of the fixing member or the cam within the following zone.

15. (Currently Amended): The method of supplying a drop according to claim 14, wherein ~~the first path is a circular path, and the holding mechanism is supported by an extending means provided on a conveying media between a conveyer going around two circular paths separate~~ circles, the second path of the holding mechanism substantially overlaps the first path of the molding die making the second path into a shape of a portion of a circular path concentric with the circular path of the first path traced by the molding die.

16. (Previously Presented): The method of supplying a drop according to claim 15, wherein the holding mechanism is supported by a support, the support is biased outward with respect to a wheel on which the holding mechanism is attached, the cam follower abutting on the cam is set so that the holding mechanism does not move outward from the position, the support moves along the guide, the support moves along the guide, while the support approaches the rotating molding die, the rotation path of the holding mechanism substantially overlap the first path of the molding die within the following zone.

17. (Previously Presented): The method of supplying a drop according to claim 14, wherein the path around the eccentric circle is a path formed by vertical or horizontal rotation.

18. (Previously Presented): The method of supplying a drop in molding die follow-up manner according to claim 2, wherein control is performed to adjust the moving rate of the holding mechanism to that of the molding die in the following zone.

19. (Previously Presented): The method of supplying a drop into a molding die according to claim 2, wherein the molding which is molded in the compression molding machine is a preform.